

REMARKS

The present application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated May 13, 2008. Claims 14-28 are presented for examination, of which Claims 14, 19, and 24 are in independent form. Claims 14-17, 19-22, 24-27 have been amended to define aspects of Applicant's invention more clearly. Favorable consideration is requested.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication that Claims 17, 22, and 27 include allowable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten in proper independent form. Claims 17, 22, and 27 have been amended to be in independent form and to include all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims from which they depended. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 17, 22, and 27 are in condition for allowance. This leaves independent Claims 14-16, 18-21, 23-26, and 28 unallowed.

The Office Action states that Claims 14-16, 18-21, 23-26, and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,408,009 (*Campbell et al.*). Applicant submits that independent Claims 14, 19, and 24, together with the claims dependent therefrom, are patentably distinct from the cited prior art for at least the following reasons.

The aspect of the present invention set forth in Claim 14 is directed to an information processing apparatus. The information processing apparatus includes: (1) a display unit configured to display a plurality of print settings on a print setting screen; (2) an extraction unit configured to extract, from a head portion of a queue, a conflict resolution rule for avoiding a conflict among the print settings displayed on the print setting screen; (3) a determination unit configured to determine whether a predetermined control symbol is included in the conflict resolution rule extracted by the extraction unit, wherein the control symbol indicates information on priority of application of the conflict resolution rule over other rules; and (4) a processing unit

configured to, if it is determined by the determination unit that the control symbol is included in the conflict resolution rule extracted by the extraction unit, remove the control symbol from the conflict resolution rule and insert the conflict resolution rule from which the control symbol is removed into an end portion of the queue, and, if it is determined by the determination unit that the control symbol is not included in the conflict resolution rule extracted by the extraction unit, evaluate the conflict resolution rule extracted by the extraction unit.

Notable features of Claim 14 include: “a display unit configured to display a plurality of print settings on a print setting screen” and “an extraction unit configured to extract, from a head portion of a queue, a conflict resolution rule for avoiding a conflict among the print settings displayed on the print setting screen.” Support for these features may be found in FIGS. 2 and 6 of the specification and in their accompanying descriptions, for example. By virtue of these features, a user of a personal computer may be informed of various print settings that are available, and a device conflict may be avoided if the user selects a particular print setting that would cause a device conflict in a conventional personal computer, for example.¹

Campbell et al. relates to a method for detecting collisions in a transmission channel which is accessed by stations using a distributed queueing random access protocol. Apparently, *Campbell et al.* teaches that multiple nodes each include a memory for storing a conflict resolution queue that includes a counter that is incremented when a collision occurs during a control minislot (col. 4, lines 16-42); and that a head end or temporarily selected station periodically transmits a timing marker and a ternary feedback of a previous inbound control minislot (col. 11, lines 18-61). As best understood by Applicant, *Campbell et al.* is silent

¹/ The example(s) presented herein are intended for illustrative purposes only. Any details presented in the illustrative example(s) should not be construed to limit the scope of the claims.

regarding displaying of print settings on a print setting screen, and extracting rules from a head portion of a queue.

Nothing has been found in *Campbell et al.* that is believed to teach or suggest “a display unit configured to display a plurality of print settings on a print setting screen” and “an extraction unit configured to extract, from a head portion of a queue, a conflict resolution rule for avoiding a conflict among the print settings displayed on the print setting screen,” as recited in Claim 14. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claim 14 is not anticipated by *Campbell et al.*, and respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of Claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).

Independent Claims 19 and 24 include features similar to those of Claim 14 discussed above, in which a print screen that includes a plurality of print settings is displayed, and a conflict resolution rule for avoiding a conflict among the print settings displayed on the print setting screen is extracted from a head portion of a queue. Therefore, Claims 19 and 24 also are believed to be patentable for at least the reasons discussed above. The other rejected claims in this application depend from one or another of the independent claims discussed above and, therefore, are submitted to be patentable for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim also is deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, individual consideration of the patentability of each claim on its own merits is respectfully requested.

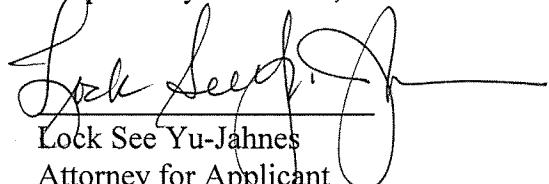
No petition to extend the time for response to the Office Action is deemed necessary for this Amendment. If, however, such a petition is required to make this Amendment timely filed, then this paper should be considered such a petition and the Commissioner is authorized to charge the requisite petition fee to Deposit Account 06-1205.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests favorable consideration and an early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York Office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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